The St. Petersburg Police Department’s 2013 Officer of the Year

When: Thursday April 3, 2014 at 12 Noon

Where: St. Petersburg Yacht Club, # 11 Central Avenue (Downtown St. Petersburg)

A St. Petersburg Police Department’s Undercover Narcotics Detective has been selected as our 2013 “Officer of the Year.” This annual award is sponsored by the Exchange Club of St. Petersburg and the Charles A. Patterson and Odette W. Patterson Charitable Trust.

This year marks the 50th presentation of this award.

Mayor Rick Kriseman and Interim Chief of Police David H. DeKay will present the award to the undercover detective for his/her outstanding accomplishments.

Please note: The detective’s undercover status requires us to maintain the confidentiality of the detective’s identity. Television news reporters and photographers are welcome to attend the ceremony, but they must obtain their photos or video in such a way that will not reveal the identity of the detective, who has worked in the clandestine world of illegal narcotics for well over a decade.

The undercover detective has recently worked with a multi-agency task force responsible for seizing large quantities of cocaine, marijuana, MDMA (Ecstasy) and crystal methamphetamine destined for St. Petersburg, seizing millions of dollars in cash and real estate, and obtaining Federal indictments on high level drug traffickers responsible for bringing more than 300 kilograms and thousands of pounds of marijuana to the streets of St. Petersburg.

In the past few months alone, the undercover detective investigated and dismantled a large local drug trafficking organization utilizing surveillance, investigative techniques and undercover drug purchases to
obtain Federal indictments of the drug traffickers and seize seven kilograms of cocaine as it was being trans-
ported to our City.

Our undercover detective's devotion to duty has consistently earned the detective the highest praise from
those who work with him/her and from many federal law enforcement colleagues as well, so it is our privi-
lege to select this detective as the St. Petersburg Police Department's 2013 “Officer of the Year.”

Bill Proffitt and Mike Puetz will be at the ceremony to facilitate the needs of the news media.

Information provided by Bill Proffitt on Thursday April 3, 2014 at 7:30 a.m.