



## **Five Metropolitan officers scoop the regional and national bravery award**

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Five heroic officers from the Metropolitan have tonight received the London regional award and the overall winner award for their brave actions at the 15th annual Police Bravery Awards in London, organised by the Police Federation of England and Wales and The Sun Newspaper.

The awards were received at a glittering ceremony at The Dorchester Hotel which followed a reception at 10 Downing Street where the officers along with the 53 other nominees, met the Prime Minister, David Cameron and Home Secretary, Theresa May.

Whilst out on patrol, officers PC James Berry, PC Jonathan Lowe, PC Stuart Higgs, and PC Dion Bird responded to reports of youths stealing a moped in West London.

Constables Lowe and Higgs approached the two male youths who both ran off when they spotted the officers. As the officers chased them one of the youths pulled out a handgun and fired three times at them, including PC Berry who had now caught up with them in the car. PC Bird joined him in the vehicle and they drove to block the man's escape.

PC Lowe continued to chase the other suspect and heard the shots fired. Despite this he continued, not knowing whether this suspect was also armed.

PC Higgs continued to chase the first man who again turned and fired. PC Higgs took cover behind a car, but realised a lady was standing nearby frozen with fear. He ran to her and pushed her to the ground for her own safety. The shots continued and the offender ran off, with PC Bird and PC Berry still in hot pursuit. Despite calls to the suspect to give himself up the shots continued.

PC Pine who had now arrived at the scene left his vehicle and began chasing the man on foot. The man turned to fire at PC Pine but, using his baton only, the officer knocked the weapon out of his hand. PCs Pine, Bird and Berry then overpowered the man and arrested him.

Paul McKeever, chairman of the Police Federation of England and Wales says:

“These officers deserve the highest praise for their incredible strength, bravery and courage tackling armed and dangerous men. We hope this award goes some way towards recognising their heroic actions where the lives of members of the public were saved as a result. Their bravery is an inspiration to us all”

Editor of The Sun Newspaper Dominic Mohan says:

“These officers showed extraordinary courage and dedication in tackling an armed gang. They acted with tremendous professionalism in protecting the public from a dangerous situation and they are a credit to their force. We are delighted to honour their bravery with this award and hope it is seen as fitting praise for their courageous actions.”

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