

UTAH COUNTY EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH - NOVEMBER, 2016
Sergeant COLE CHRISTENSEN - ENFORCEMENT
UTAH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

On Tuesday, October 25, a worker at a Chevron service station on Main Street in Spanish fork looked out a window of the business and witnessed a Utah County Sheriff's Deputy sprinting across Main Street chasing a man. Like a scene out of COPS, Sergeant Cole Christensen quickly caught up to the man, tackled and held him until other Deputies and Officers arrived. The Chevron worker was impressed with the Deputies speed and ability in apprehending a man who was "much larger" than the Deputy. The man was driving a large stolen RV and fled on foot once Law Enforcement attempted to make contact. The stolen RV had stolen property from throughout Utah County in it.

Sergeant Christensen obtained much of his speed by participating in marathons. In fact, his calves were so large, the Sheriff's Office had to special order motorcycle boots to fit around his calves. The money was well spent by the county as his efforts with the motors program have resulted in large dividends for Utah County and the image of the Sheriff's Office.

This is one example of the many contributions Sergeant Cole Christensen makes as he serves the citizens of Utah County. His greatest attribute is his ability to talk to people and interact with the community. He is well respected by those he works with as evident by the positive feedback obtained from event organizers that Sergeant Christensen works with on a regular basis including the Utah County Fair, Festival of Colors and other large events. He works extremely well with local and state law enforcement agencies.

Sergeant Christensen understands the importance of building trust and goes above and beyond in creating a positive environment. He is often witnessed giving children "high fives or knuckles." He is humble and doesn't like the attention, he would rather others receive credit for all he has accomplished. He has a big heart and has given of his own resources to help co-workers and the public when needed.

Sergeant Christensen is a leader and sets an example for others to follow. Examples of his leadership include leading a SWAT team to first place in a competition, taking control of major incidents resulting in peaceful resolutions and obtaining outside funding from the state related to DUI shifts and Traffic Enforcement funds due to the success of programs he oversaw.

He is committed and dedicated to improving himself on a constant basis with the main goal of representing the Utah County Sheriff's Office with professionalism and serving the citizens of Utah County.

Lt. Mike Brower

I would like to nominate Cole Christensen for Employee of the Month. Cole has been the representative over the Utah County Fair since 2013. He has been so great to working with the Fair Board, Fair Committee, Fair Volunteers, and the public. Cole always has a smile on his face and he is willing to do whatever is needed to help the Fair staff. He spends the entire week at the Fairgrounds, to ensure that the Deputies are attending to their assignments. He also co-ordinates the Utah County Sheriff's Office booth and Command Center trailer. He does a great job to make sure the USCO is well recognized during the event.

The job isn't just during the Fair; Cole attends the monthly Fair meetings, as events are discussed. He provides feedback from a Public Safety standpoint. One example of some of the challenges he's had at the Fair, is dealing with the Pig Wrestling protesters who attended the Fair in 2013, 2014 and 2015. In 2015, the protesters became more of a challenge as they protested on the arena floor, which resulted in Police involvement, and attracted a lot of media attention.

As a County employee and Fair Board member for the past 8 years, I appreciate the hard work Cole has done to make our jobs as a volunteer's much easier.

Nominated by Emily Gillingwater, Tax Administration

Michelle Araujo, from the Commission office, also added, "In every dealing I have ever had with Cole Christensen, he has been the most positive person. He continually has a smile on his face. He goes above and beyond the normal realms of the job to make sure everything and everyone is taken care of. The way he talks about his sweet wife and kids is very admirable and inspiring. It would be my pleasure to one day be arrested by Cole!" (everyone needs goals, right?)