

**PRESENTED BY: MAURER, SOYARS, DEBEVEC
ENDRES, LYSENKO, WAGNER, MEGYES, AVANT & FREY**

**RESOLUTION NO. 158-2014
SPONSORED BY: MR. SOYARS**

TITLE: COMMENDATION – DETECTIVE STEVE COBURN

**A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BARBERTON TO
HONOR AND GIVE PUBLIC RECOGNITION TO DETECTIVE STEVE COBURN FOR
HIS EXCELLENT WORK ON A RAPE INVESTIGATION.**

WHEREAS, On February 3, 2014 Steve was called to Summa Barberton Hospital’s Emergency Room at the request of patrol officers. A patient reported that she was kidnapped, beaten and raped. Those in law enforcement knew the case would be difficult.

WHEREAS, Steve truly believed the victim and would not give up on her. After gathering evidence, Steve arrested and interviewed Michael Person, who denied everything, mislead law enforcement and placed all the blame on the victim. Steve still did not give up, and with the help of other Detectives developed and found a second suspect, Deandra Thomas. During an interview with Thomas, Steve was able to gain a full confession in which he also implicated Person.

WHEREAS, both prosecutions went the distances to separate jury trials where they were both found guilty. Thomas will serve 13 years and Person will be doing 41 years to life in prison; and

WHEREAS, Lt. Jamison as well as Summit County Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh have both informed Chief Morber of Steve’s exceptional pursuit of justice. He went above and beyond the call of duty. Too often people like this victim are not taken seriously and their cases are not investigated to the fullest. Some officers would have given up on this case because of all the problems and doubt. But not Steve. Steve fought, investigated, talked, and then talked some more, and was able to get justice for this victim. Steve did not give up until they were convicted. Detective Coburn’s actions are a shining example of dedication to his profession; and

WHEREAS, Steve was also recognized by Summit County Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh as a “Top Cop” for the month of October and as a “Super Hero” award from the Rape Crisis Center; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Barberton, State of Ohio:

SECTION 1. That the Council of the City of Barberton hereby honors and gives public recognition to Detective Steve Coburn for his excellent work.

SECTION 2. That this resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

Passed _____ 2014

Clerk of Council

President of Council

Approved _____ 2014

Mayor