

October 26, 2015

To: LASIK for a Local Hero Contest

From: Jennifer Smith

Re: Lawrence and Douglas Smith

Lawrence and Douglas Smith are identical twins who were born and raised in Bay County and have dedicated their lives to serving and protecting the people of this community. You will likely not find a more deserving pair.

I decided to nominate them together, as one is just as deserving as the other.

Lieutenant Lawrence Smith has worked as a paramedic in Bay County for over 20 years. He is the most selfless person I have ever met, and would willingly give the shirt off his back to help someone in need. Just last night at dinner, he got up in the middle of his meal to help an elderly woman who was struggling to get back to her seat. I never know when we might be late to wherever we are headed, because we have to stop and help someone stranded on the side of the road. Helping people is just part of Lawrence's everyday life; it's what makes him happy.

When Lawrence is not at work, he can be found volunteering in our son's 3rd grade classroom, or driving the carpool for the neighborhood kids. He is an avid outdoorsman who loves spending time with his family and friends in this paradise we get to call home.

Sergeant Douglas Smith has been in law enforcement in Bay County for over 20 years. He, like his twin, is always ready and willing to help wherever needed. He works many tireless hours to help keep our community safe, often taking on extra jobs. He is a loving husband and father, and loves the outdoors just as much as his twin.

Funny side note: Some people don't know that there are two of them. In their jobs, they often end up working within the same circles of people. Some people just think it's one really busy guy who works for EMS and BCSO.....until they end up at the same emergency call together :-)

Wearing glasses and contacts is very inconvenient and distracting when working 24 shifts to save lives and protect the community. Eye drops for contacts, smudges on lenses, frames that keep sliding down, a contact that fell out.....the list could go on and on. Being able to see well is vital to their jobs. It could literally be the difference between life or death for someone. The bottom line is, these guys are there to save, help and protect at possibly the worst time in someone's life. They are life-changing to so many in this community, now it should be their turn for something life-changing.

Thank you for your consideration!