



**State  
Police**

**GEORGE P. BEACH II**  
Superintendent

**EDWARD J. KENNEDY**  
Troop Commander

May 21, 2018

Ms. Janice M. Kuzan  
Special Events Coordinator  
Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural Site Foundation  
641 Delaware Avenue  
Buffalo, New York 14202

Dear Ms. Kuzan:

I wish to nominate Trooper Sean Pierce, who is assigned to the SP Holland Satellite Office, for the Theodore Roosevelt Association Police Award. Trooper Pierce is an eighteen-year veteran of the New York State Police who has served as a Canine Handler since 2011.

On June 25, 2006, Trooper Pierce suffered multiple abrasions and bruises as he was dragged by an all-terrain vehicle for approximately 6/10 of a mile. Trooper Pierce disengaged from the ATV after discharging his weapon and wounding the operator who subsequently succumbed to his injuries. After several weeks of recuperation, he returned to duty in July 2006 and continued to perform his patrol duties at an exemplary level.

On November 2, 2015, Trooper Pierce incurred a ligament/muscle tear to the labrum of his left leg after being bit by a State Police Canine while playing the role of a perpetrator during a room clearing training exercise. Trooper Pierce returned to duty in October 2016 after 11 months of treatment and recovery including surgery and physical therapy.

Trooper Pierce is a Field Training Officer and a member of the Mobile Field Unit (civil disturbance response team). He has also received enhanced K-9 training to work closely with the State Police Special Operations Response Team (SORT) which provides high-risk tactical response to critical events and other specialized assignments such as counter terrorism, disaster relief, hostage rescue, barricaded persons, violent felony arrests, searching for wanted and missing persons, and dignitary protection. Throughout Trooper Pierce's career, he has demonstrated a steadfast commitment to actively enforcing the Vehicle and Traffic Law, conducting thorough criminal investigations and removing dangerous drugs and intoxicated drivers from our communities. He has received numerous awards and letters of commendation for his praiseworthy contributions to several high profile and significant investigations, incidents and events including the following:

#### Awards

- American Red Cross Hero Award- November 2002
- Genesee County MADD Award 2004
- Campaign Safe & Sober Award August 2005

- American Legion Award Recipient January 2006
- Stop DWI – March 2009
- Stop DWI – March 2011

#### Letters of Commendation

- Officer involved Shooting Wyoming County – March 2006
- Ralph Phillips Prisoner Escape Manhunt – April – September 2006
- Airplane Crash of Flight 3407 in Clarence, NY – February 2009
- Severe Flooding Event in Gowanda and Silver Creek – August 2009
- Presidential Security Detail – President Barack Obama – July 2010
- State Police Funeral Detail for Trooper Kevin P. Dobson – March 2011
- State Police Security Detail - Nik Wallenda Walk Over Niagara Falls – June 2012
- Clinton Correctional Escaped Inmates Search– June 2015
- Attempted Murder Investigation at the Zoe Restaurant in Clarence, NY– November 2016

I believe that Trooper Pierce is a deserving candidate for the Theodore Roosevelt Association Police Award. He has proven that he has the resolve to overcome the adversity of a traumatic experience involving the use of deadly physical force and a serious leg injury and perform his duties as a State Trooper and Canine Handler in a superb manner.

Sincerely,



Edward J. Kennedy  
Major  
Troop Commander