



*Tammie Bishop*  
*2006 Communications Bureau*  
*Employee of the Year*

On December 29, 2006, Tammie Bishop took a call from a complainant in California whose ex-wife resides in Tampa. He wanted to determine the outcome of an attempt to contact from earlier in the day. Remarks of the call showed the officer cleared without contact. Tammie followed up with the officer who had checked the building found it secure, no answer at the door and the neighbors had not seen the subject for a couple of days.

The last time the complainant talked to his ex-wife, she complained of being ill and upset that the children would not be with her for Christmas. She had been so ill, according to the complainant that she was unable to drive and called a cab to pick up her and her children and take them to the airport. The children were flying to California to be with the complainant for Christmas. Tammie asked pertinent questions and determined that the female was not suicidal. The caller advised his ex-wife had yet to speak with the children since taking them to the airport. The complainant wanted officers to do a forced entry, believing his ex-wife may be in the upstairs bedroom. The female's vehicle was at the residence and the mail had piled up. Tammie spoke with Corporal Lee Bercaw, informing him of the callers concerns and advising him there was also an attempt to contact the day before with negative results. Tammie called the complainant back to get more information on his ex-wife, such as her cell-phone number, work number, etc. The female did not have family in the area and did not have a specific work location. Tammie began to research cell carriers to determine which company provided service to the ex-wife. Once the cellular carrier was determined, Tammie contacted the company to see when the last activity on the cell phone took place. It was last used Christmas Eve. The car was the female's only means of transport and would not be at the residence if she had decided to leave. Corporal Bercaw and Officer J. Reese self-initiated a follow up of the residence. They looked through the window and saw a purse in the house. They did a forced entry, finding the female in bed, where she had been lying for up to 72 hours. She was barely coherent, was not aware of her surroundings and had difficulty moving her extremities. She was immediately transported to Tampa General Hospital, where she was listed in stable condition.

Of Tammie's performance, Corporal Bercaw states: *"Tammie did an outstanding job researching information for a check on the welfare call. Without her diligent efforts, we may not have conducted a forced entry. Once inside we located the resident on the bed. It appeared as if she had been on the bed for the three days. She was unable to move, and she probably would not have survived much longer without intervention. Tammie Bishop played a crucial role in helping to save the resident's life. She should be commended for her efforts"*.