

# Collin County Going the Extra Mile (GEM) Recognition Form

Honoree's Name: Sarah Whittenburg  
First Name Middle Initial Last Name

Honoree's Job  
Title: Corporal

Department: CCSO

Years of Service with the County: 6

Why the Honoree is receiving a GEM Award including dates:

At approximately 8:45pm on Saturday, June 18, Corporal Sarah Whittenburg and Deputy Mark Mitchell responded to a boater in distress call for service near Brockdale Park on Lake Lavon. A small boat occupied by four men overturned and one male was rescued by Texas Game Wardens while clinging to tree after calling 911 to report the incident. Corp. Whittenburg and Deputy Mitchell responded in the CCSO watercraft to assist law enforcement agencies in their efforts to locate the three missing males. After an exhaustive search of the area lasting several hours, rescue efforts were terminated at midnight and reconvened at daybreak on Sunday, June 19. Corp. Whittenburg, Deputy Mitchell, and Deputies Ryan Nance and Travis Monk manned the CCSO watercraft and worked alongside Wylie FD, Princeton FD, and Texas Game Warden recovery teams to locate the men who were presumed to have drowned. The search included the use of sonar scanning equipment and other technology to assist investigators in their recovery efforts. One male was recovered from the lake Sunday morning and a second male was recovered late that afternoon. At nightfall, for safety reasons, recovery efforts were discontinued and reconvened the following morning on Monday, June 20. Early that morning, the aforementioned members of the Collin County Dive Team recovered the body of the third man who died in the four-person boating accident Saturday night. For their exhaustive efforts to locate and recover the bodies of the three missing men, Corp. Whittenburg, Deputy Mitchell, Deputy Monk, and Deputy Nance are deserving of the Going the Extra Mile award.

Approved by elected official or department head on  
the

21st day of JUNE, 2022

Jim Skinner  
Signature of Elected Official  
Or Department Head

Jim Skinner  
Printed Name