



ILLINOIS SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION

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PRESS RELEASE

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For Further Information
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2020 Correctional Officer of the Year

Lake County Correctional Officer Elvis Fejzic was awarded the 2020 Correctional Officer of the Year for life-saving actions in multiple incidents in the summer and fall of 2020.

On August 27, 2020, while working in the Administrative Segregation Unit, an inmate attempted to choke himself with a sheet. Officer Fejzic found the inmate on the floor who was distraught and crying, asking Officer Fejzic to let him die. Officer Fejzic talked to the inmate and kept him calm as he unwrapped the sheet from around his neck. Officer Fejzic's compassion and empathy disarmed the inmate from further harming himself and provided an opportunity to get the inmate to safety.

On September 13, 2020, Officer Fejzic was conducting a security check when an inmate was observed laying on the floor. With portions of a torn-up t-shirt the inmate had tried to choke himself, was unconscious and his face was black and blue. Officer Fejzic and his partner entered the cell, removed the item from around the inmate's neck and Officer Fejzic began chest compressions while his partner radioed for medical assistance. Officer Fejzic's quick reaction and response saved the inmate's life.

Officer Fejzic has also prevented numerous contraband from entering the facility which continuously ensures the safety of others by maintaining an awareness of the jail's security policies.

The Illinois Sheriffs' Association would like to thank Correctional Officer Fejzic for his heroic actions and dedication to the members of his community.

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