

# Illinois Sheriffs' Association

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **2021 Telecommunicator of the Year**

The Illinois Sheriffs' Association is pleased to announce that Champaign County Sheriff's Telecommunicator Lance Buyno has been named the 2021 Telecommunicator of the Year based on his extraordinary patience and outstanding communication skills on March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

On March 29, 2020, at approximately 4:15am, Lance Buyno answered a 911 call from a distraught female saying her son was at her house and "talking crazy." She added the son told her and her husband that he had killed somebody, but she didn't know whether to believe him. The son was outside speaking with his father, and Lance instructed the mother to keep an eye on them from a distance and report what was happening.

Lance dispatched Champaign County Sheriff's Office to the residence. As the individual on the phone was calling from a rural part of the county, Lance kept her on the line for approximately 30 minutes until deputies could arrive. During this time, Lance was able to keep the mother calm and get information from her that led to locating a double homicide scene at another location in the county.

Due to Lance's diligence, deputies were simultaneously able to locate the crime scene and get the suspect into custody without incident.

The extraordinary professionalism and detailed dispatching by Lance resulted in an arrest and an ongoing double homicide investigation.

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