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MONTCLAIR

Montclair cop honored for saving man's life while off duty in West Orange



John Connolly NorthJersey.com

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How to properly conduct CPR

Knowing how to conduct cardiopulmonary resuscitation, or CPR, can help save a life. Here's a step-by-step guide provided by the American Red Cross.

Montclair Police Officer Scott McGrath was honored at Tuesday's Township Council meeting for his heroics in saving a man's life in West Orange last fall.

While off duty and driving with his wife and two children on Eagle Rock Avenue in West Orange on Oct. 5, McGrath noticed a vehicle with its hazards on and causing a traffic jam. McGrath pulled over and found Michelle Moriarty desperately seeking help for her friend, James Brown.

Brown was limp and unresponsive in the front passenger seat. McGrath instantly started lifesaving measures, performing CPR on the man for three to five minutes until he started to show signs of improvement.



The mayor and council of the Montclair commended Officer Scott McGrath at its Jan. 30 meeting for helping save a life during an off-duty incident in October. Courtesy Of Township Of Montclair

McGrath coordinated with West Orange 911, and a West Orange officer arrived on the scene and took over CPR while McGrath assisted. Medics arrived and used an AED on Brown before he was rushed to a hospital.

"Officer Scott McGrath's quick thinking, courage and unwavering dedication to the well-being of our community exemplify the highest standards of service we uphold at the Montclair Police Department. His heroic actions off duty showcase the true essence of a public servant," said Police Chief Todd Conforti.

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Three days after the incident, McGrath got word that Brown was completely off a respirator, showed no signs of brain damage and had feeling in all his extremities. It is believed Brown had suffered a massive heart attack.

"We extend our deepest gratitude to Officer Scott McGrath for his quick thinking, decisive action and unwavering dedication to the safety and well-being of our community members," said Montclair Mayor Sean Spiller.

"We are immensely proud to have officers like McGrath on our force, embodying the values of compassion, professionalism and selflessness that define our $\,$ commitment to the safety and welfare of the residents we serve," Conforti said.







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