



# Sharing Ohio's Best Program

Recognizing Outstanding Community Policing



Agency of the Month

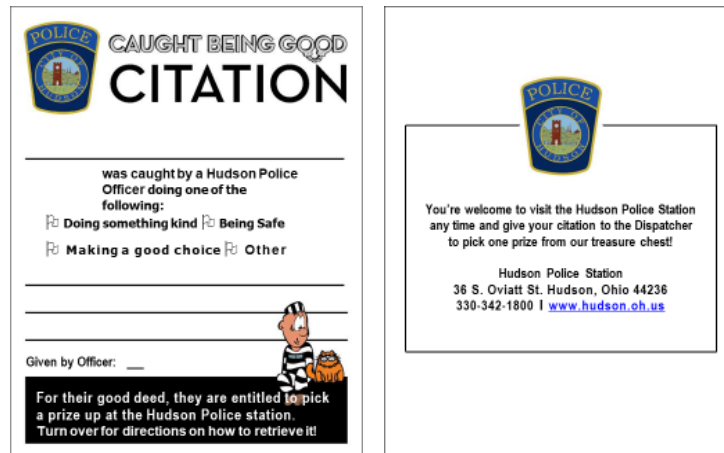
## Hudson Police Department

September 2020

### **Caught Being Good Program. . . .**

The "Caught Being Good Program" was established for elementary school aged children from about 5 to 11 or 12 (officer's discretion based on the situation or other factors such as special needs) for doing good things. It is designed to promote positive relationships with children in Hudson and Hudson police officers. The goal of the program is for officers to reward kids for the good behavior they see out around the City. The program also promotes positive visits to the station with their family.

All officers are familiar with the program, so they can explain it to the citizens when giving out a citation: "I would like to give you this 'Caught Being Good' ticket for (i.e. wearing your helmet, helping mom/dad, looking both ways crossing the street, wearing your seatbelt, etc) so you can pick out a prize at the police station". The department is doing this so the kids can have a positive interaction with the police.



Officers will write a ticket when they see something that deserves a "Caught Being Good Citation". There is no copy, the child receives the only citation. On the back are the instructions of how to retrieve the prize. Officers will write a ticket based on the following:

- Doing something kind
- Making a good choice
- Being Safe
- Other (fill in the blank box what officer observed)



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When someone comes in to claim their "Caught Being Good Citation" prize, they'll show the blue citation and then will be able to pick out a prize from the Treasure Chest. The parents will be given the opportunity to take a picture by the art wall, so their child's "Caught Being Good Citation" can be shared on the department's social media.



One of the parents wrote this note about the program:

*"Thank you again Officer Gahagan for the unique police experience for the kids today! It is such a fun idea to get kids interacting with law enforcement!"*