



**Town of Webster**  
**Police Department**  
"Improving the Quality of Life"  
Chief Timothy J. Bent

57 Thompson Road  
Webster, MA 01570  
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Officer Donald A. Southall  
57 Thompson Road  
Webster, MA 01570

Dear Officer Southall,

Since taking command of the Webster Police Department I have encouraged officers to get interested and more involved with the youth of our community. Officers involved with the *Hoops for Hope* program and the *Junior Police Academy* have been an example of that commitment.

It is my understanding that since the summer, without any fanfare, you have directly impacted the life of a troubled youth in our town. Utilizing your boxing skills and love for the sport you committed your own time and effort in introducing this youth to the sport. During your off duty time you have taken the youth from Webster to the boxing gymnasium in Southbridge to train and teach the child boxing skills. You understood the concept that by focusing this child's energy into the sport, this would improve the youth's quality of life. Officer Southall, you are a shining example of grass roots community policing.

It is also my understanding that since you became involved in this youth's life, the police department has had no further dealings with the child. It has also been brought to my attention that this child has made major academic improvements in school. I further understand that this youth will soon be competing in the sport.

In closing, I would like to take this opportunity to commend you for your efforts. There is certainly no need for me to suggest that you keep up the good work.

Sincerely,

Timothy J. Bent  
Chief of Police

Cc: Town Administrator  
Board of Selectmen