



MIKE DEWINE

★ OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL ★

2015 Distinguished Law Enforcement Valor Award



Patrolman Steve Wilson
South Euclid Police Department

As a woman's life was in the balance, an officer took action to save her from a knife-wielding attacker.

At 4:13 a.m. on Oct. 18, 2014, Patrolman Steve Wilson and Detective Sergeant Rick Friedl responded to calls of a burglary in progress. When they arrived at the home, they heard a woman screaming for help and saw that the back door had been forced open. The two entered the residence and saw a man with a knife on top of an injured woman. She was screaming, "Please, don't let him kill me!" Both ordered the man to put the knife down, but he refused. Wilson fired two shots, both of which hit the suspect, who later died at the hospital.

The victim said her attacker targeted her because she had broken off a relationship with him when she found that he had been using drugs. The ex-boyfriend broke into her home that night to kill her, she said, but in doing so set off the alarm that alerted police.

"Thank you for doing a superb job as police officers," she wrote. "Most importantly, thank you Steve for saving my life."