

# Ardmore Police Department



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## APD Officers Pull Unconscious Man From Water

Two Ardmore Police Officers are being considered for commendations after saving a local man's life last week.

On Friday, 20 February, 2009, at approximately 2:15 in the morning, a passing motorist observed a vehicle off of the roadway, resting near a creek embankment in the 1300 block of Springdale Road. The motorist dialed 911 and units were dispatched to investigate. Sgt. Billy Eades was the first officer on the scene. Sgt. Eades approached the vehicle, and then noticed a victim lying in the bottom of the creek, face down and unconscious in a large pool of water. The temperature was in the low 30's and ice was forming on the guardrail of the bridge. Sgt. Eades immediately made a radio call requesting medical personnel and additional units, and then sprang into action. He made his way down the steep, rocky, and overgrown creek embankment. Officer Matt Bell arrived at about this time and followed Sgt. Eades down to the creek. They waded into the frigid water. "That's when I saw the victim's head moving up and down, and I could see bubbles in the water around him. We knew we had to get him out of there," Eades said. Both officers worked quickly to turn the victim over, eventually helping to remove him from the water.

"The victim would have surely drowned had it not been for the heroic actions of Sergeant Eades and Officer Bell," said Capt. Ryan Hunnicutt, midnight Shift Commander. The victim was seriously injured and identified as Toby Garmon, a 43-year old Ardmore Resident. In a memorandum addressed to Chief David Leonardo Hunnicutt writes, "I am recommending both Sgt. Eades and Officer Bell for a formal commendation in regards to their heroic actions that most assuredly saved the life of Toby Garmon."

As of Thursday morning, Garmon was listed in Critical condition at OU Medical Center in Oklahoma City.

BELL, EADES

