FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE William Raynard

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 978-774-3281 **ESSEX COUNTY SHERIFF’S DEPARTMENT TO BE AWARDED**

 **P.A.A.R.I. LAW ENFORCEMENT LEADERSHIP AWARD**

The Essex County Sheriff’s Department will be presented the Law Enforcement Leadership Award on June 27th at 6 PM at the Gloucester House, 63 Rogers St., Gloucester. The Police Assisted Addiction Recovery Initiative (P.A.A.R.I.) will be hosting the third annual celebration, which will recognize the leadership and advocacy by law enforcement, government and advocacy groups who continually work to end the current opioid addiction crisis.

Sheriff Kevin Coppinger, Community Relations Coordinator Gary Barrett and the entire Detox Unit team will be recognized for their innovative approaches to treatment and re-entry. The 42 bed male and 42 bed female detox units are located within the House of Correction in Middleton.

P.A.A.R.I encourages opioid users to seek recovery, helps distribute life saving opioid blocking drugs to prevent and treat overdoses, connects addicts with treatment programs and facilities and provides resources to Essex Sheriff’s Department to fight the opioid addiction epidemic.

“The Essex County Sheriff’s Department is honored to receive the P.A.A.R.I. Leadership Award. The Detox Units are part of our Department’s commitment to reduce recidivism by working with agencies like P.A.A.R.I. to prepare people in recovery for a more productive and responsible role in their home communities,” said Sheriff Coppinger.

The Sheriff’s Department Detox Unit utilizes the PAARI recovery coaches who provide support services to participants for 10-20 hours per week both during and after a participant’s release. This allows the program to extend beyond the walls back into the communities with coordinated services to address barriers to successful recovery.

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