

Police Department

CITY OF MIDDLEBURG HEIGHTS

• Middleburg Heights, Ohio 44130



Gary W. Starr
Mayor

John W. Maddox
Chief of Police

Sandra Kerber
Safety Director

July 21, 2010

Mr. Shaun Rogers
c/o Cleveland Browns

Dear Mr. Rogers,

On the evening of July 15th, 2010 at approximately 11:08 p.m., you were proceeding southbound on Interstate 71 in Middleburg Heights, Ohio and observed what appeared to be a drunk driver ahead of you. Much to your credit, you called our 911 dispatchers who immediately alerted our patrol officers. You also stayed on the line with a dispatcher and continually described the developments going south on Interstate 71, including the fact that the drunk driver was crossing all three travel lanes and also that his left front tire was flat and was unraveling.

Ultimately, the drunk driver came to a stop, partially in the high speed lane and turned out his lights. You remained behind him, with your emergency flashers engaged, at high personal risk to yourself and your passenger, until our officers arrived on the scene. As you know, the drunk driver was arrested as well as the passenger, who was charged with underage drinking. Both recording extremely high readings on the breath tests.

There is no doubt in my mind that your actions, in all probability, averted a tragedy. Had you just called the complaint in and went your own way, no one knows what would have occurred. What we do know that occurred was that a drunk driver was taken off the road, no one was hurt or killed, and it was due to your own initiative that safety was assured.

I commend you for your civic mindedness. You went above and beyond what the normal, responsible individual would do in that case. You also did that at high personal risk. It is refreshing to me to know that there are citizens out there like you, helping us keep Middleburg Heights safe. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John W. Maddox". The signature is written in a cursive style.

John W. Maddox
Chief of Police

cc: Michael Holmgren
Thomas Heckert
Eric Mangini
Lou Merletti

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