

MUPC Service Award Announcement

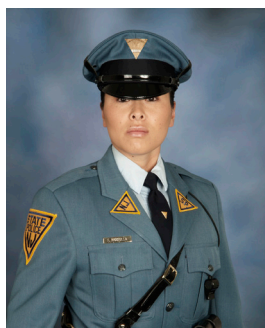
National Criminal Justice Training Center (NCJTC) of Fox Valley Technical College congratulates DSG. Erin Micciulla with the New Jersey State Police, Missing Persons Unit for her outstanding contributions and as the recipient of the 2024 National Missing and Unidentified Persons Conference (MUPC) Service Award.

The MUPC Service Award recognizes the extraordinary efforts and outstanding achievements that have been made in contributing to the search, investigation, recovery, identification, and reunification of those that go missing. DSG. Micciulla will be honored during the National Missing and Unidentified Persons Conference, April 16-18, 2024, in Las Vegas, Nevada.

DSG. Micciulla is being recognized for consistently demonstrating compassion, service, leadership, innovation, and commitment to missing and unidentified persons case issues. DSG. Micciulla began her career with the New Jersey State Police in 2005. In 2013, she was assigned to the New Jersey State Police – Missing Persons Unit, which is her current assignment. In 2014, DSG. Micciulla sought to help families with missing loved ones, after recognizing New Jersey did not have a provision in its laws to allow for legal process to be issued for missing persons investigations. Her commitment and perseverance in understanding that law enforcement and prosecutors needed the necessary tools to find missing persons before they met injury and/or death and the critical investigative leads to capture an offender resulted in the passing and signing into law [Bill P.L.2023, c.59 \(A-3147/S-2081\)](#) on May 15, 2023.

The legislation expands the powers and duties of the Missing Persons Unit within the New Jersey State Police, providing the Unit with explicit authority to issue administrative subpoenas and to request that a court issue subpoenas, warrants, court orders or other relief concerning any case involving a high-risk missing person. Under the new law, a law enforcement agency is required to contact the applicable county prosecutor if the agency believes that a person reported missing is a “high-risk” missing person. If the prosecutor determines that the person is a high-risk missing person, and the Missing Persons Unit does not discover any evidence to the contrary, the law establishes a rebuttable presumption that the person is missing as a result of, or in association with, criminal activity, and the Unit may then request that a court issue subpoenas, warrants, court orders, or any other appropriate relief.

Her tireless persistence and determination exemplify how instrumental and invaluable she is to the New Jersey State Police and all those communities she serves.



About the Awardee

DSG. Erin Micciulla #6804 graduated from the 143rd New Jersey State Police Academy on November 18, 2005. She was assigned to various stations in the central portion of New Jersey as a general road trooper. Between 2009-2013, DSG. Micciulla was assigned to the New Jersey State Police – Internet Crimes Against Children Unit. Between 2010-2011 she was the affiant for an investigation that convicted a man of aggravated sexual assault, conspiracy, and child endangerment. The investigation was prosecuted by the New Jersey Division of Criminal Justice resulting in a 55-year prison sentence. In January 2013, DSG. Micciulla was assigned to the New Jersey State Police – Missing Persons Unit, which is her current assignment.

In 2014, DSG. Micciulla sought to help families with missing loved ones, after recognizing New Jersey did not have a provision in its laws to allow for legal process to be issued for missing persons investigations. Throughout the years, DSG. Micciulla sought input from grieving family members, and her peers, including investigators throughout the country. Aided by Assistant Atlantic County Prosecutor Joseph Remy and the New Jersey State Police Officers Union, on March 15, 2023, Bill P.L.2023, c.59 (A-3147/S-2081) was signed into law by New Jersey’s Governor Philip D. Murphy. Prosecutors and law enforcement now have the necessary tools to find missing persons before they meet injury and/or death; and, if they are found dead and under suspicious circumstances, the necessary investigative leads to capture the offender.

For more information about our 2024 National Missing and Unidentified Persons Conference visit ncjtc.org/MUPC