March 15

FROM: Sgt. John Weatherwax
Police Community Relations Advisory Commission

SUBJECT: Police Community Relations Criminal Justice Scholarship

The Holland Police Community Relations Commission announces a $2,000.00 scholarship for area students who are currently enrolled or are enrolling in a post-secondary Criminal Justice program or track. In keeping with the purpose of the Commission, the group is committed to encouraging and assisting students desiring to become law enforcement officers. The scholarship will be awarded annually in the spring to one individual who reflects the highest potential for law enforcement.

The Police Community Relations Commission is committed to diversity and strongly encourages minority and female students to apply.

To receive full consideration, the student applicant must be a resident of the greater Holland area (applicants who reside within the Holland City limits shall be considered first over nonresidents), receive their high school diploma in the spring of the coming year, have a cumulative 3.00 GPA or higher, be accepted or currently enrolled in a higher education institution intending to pursue a degree in Criminal Justice, and have an acceptable background check and driving record. The Commission will consider an applicant with less than a 3.00 GPA if the other criteria are met and the student shows considerable potential for a career in law enforcement.

The attached application and supplementary materials must be postmarked by May 15.
A complete application contains the following materials:

- The application form
- An essay on why you desire to enter the law enforcement profession and the characteristics you have that will make you a successful law enforcement officer. The essay should be limited to no more than two pages, double-spaced.
- An official high school or college transcript
- Two letters of recommendation (only one may be from a teacher)

Finalists may be expected to participate in a conversation with members of the Police Community Relations Commission. The members will discuss the finalists’ interest in the scholarship and the content of their essay. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at 616-355-1720.

Sincerely,

Sgt. John Weatherwax
Holland Department of Public Safety
Community Policing Unit
Police Community Relations
Criminal Justice Scholarship

Name ____________________________________________
Address _______________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________
Telephone _______________________________
Birth Date ________________ Social Security # ______________________________
Gender (M/F) _____ Race/Ethnicity (optional) ________________________________
Driver’s License #______________________________
Name of High School _____________________________________________________
Date of Graduation ______________ GPA ______
College (Upcoming Fall) _______________________________________________________
Address ________________________________________________________________
Major Course of Study _______________________________________________________
Career Plans _______________________________________________________________

References (enclose two letters of reference)
Name ____________________________________________
Position ____________________________________________
Employer ____________________________________________
Phone _____________________________________________

Applicant Signature ____________________________________ Date _____________
(By signing this form, you give permission for the Holland Police Community Relations Commission to obtain a criminal history and driving record report. If you are under the age of 18, you also need a parent’s signature authorizing the criminal history and driving record report.)

Parent’s Signature ____________________________________________
Parent’s Name ___________________________________________________________________
Address _______________________________________________________________________

*Please attach your essay, official transcript and two letters of reference to this application and mail to:
Sgt. John Weatherwax
Holland Police Department
89 West 8th Street
Holland, Michigan 49423

*If you have any questions, please call Sgt. Weatherwax at 355-1176.

*Completed applications must be postmarked by May 15. Incomplete and late applications WILL NOT be considered.