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Winthrop University

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Police Chief Receives Award for Come-See-Me Festival Support

ROCK HILL, S.C. - Winthrop Chief of Police Frank Zebedis is the recipient of the Come-See-Me Festival's Beyond the Call of Glen Award, given to people who go "above and beyond" in their efforts to support the annual festival.

Zebedis has ensured security for Come-See-Me since his appointment as Winthrop's chief of police in 1998. In the past eight-10 years, though, he has taken on a larger role with event security. During each festival, Zebedis and his officers handle emergency response, alcohol enforcement and crowd control; coordinate police presence at festival events; direct traffic flow; and coordinate with the Rock Hill Fire Department to safeguard Come-See-Me's popular closing fireworks show.

Zebedis also prepares an extensive post-event report that outlines the strengths and weaknesses of each festival.

While these tasks can be time-consuming, Zebedis said he's happy to do the work necessary to make the festival safe for everyone.

"We want families to come out, have a good time and enjoy the festival and at the same time be safe," said Zebedis. "We want that expectation of safety to be out there in the community."

Zebedis was appointed chief of police at Winthrop in 1998. Since becoming chief of police, he has graduated from the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Va., and served as president and vice-president of the South Carolina Campus Law Enforcement Association. He worked previously with the Barberton Police Department in Barberton, Ohio, and the Rock Hill Police Department. Zebedis earned a degree in criminal justice at the University of Akron, Ohio.

The 10-day festival will feature a number of events on Winthrop's campus, including Department of Music concerts and Department of Theatre and Dance productions; the Second Catawba Pow Wow; baseball and softball games as well as a tennis tournament; the Winthrop University Galleries spring opening reception; and many more activities. For a complete list of events, visit the Come-See-Me Festival website.