

COUNTY OF SUFFOLK

KATE BROWNING
County Legislator, 3rd District
Public Safety Committee, Chair



COUNTY LEGISLATURE

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POLICE OFFICER MICHAEL ALFIERI HONORED

Utilizes NARCAN Training to Save Two Lives



(Pictured from right to left: Legislator Kate Browning, Police Officer Michael Alfieri and Legislator Kara Hahn)

Hauppauge, NY – Legislator Kate Browning (WF-Shirley) honored Police Officer Michael Alfieri at the Suffolk County Legislature’s September 13, 2012 general meeting for saving two lives by utilizing intranasal anti-narcotic medication.

On August 1, 2012 Officer Alfieri responded to a home on Lacrosse Road in Mastic Beach where a reported overdose of a 27 year old man took place. When he arrived on the scene the victim was unresponsive and not breathing. Officer Alfieri was able to revive the man by administering intranasal Narcan, and the man was then transported to Brookhaven Memorial Hospital where he recovered.

Again, on August 21, 2012 while on routine patrol on Squaw Lane in Mastic, Officer Alfieri was flagged down by a man whose wife was unresponsive and not breathing. He was able to revive the victim by administering intranasal Narcan, and she was also transported to Brookhaven Memorial Hospital where she fully recovered.

Naloxone hydrochloride, commonly referred to by its brand name Narcan, was made available to responding Police Officers in select precincts after receiving training on the signs of opiate overdose and instruction on how to administer the drug. Introductory Resolution 1281-2012, sponsored by Legislator Kara Hahn and co-sponsored by Legislator Kate Browning expanded a Health Department opioid antagonist pilot program for emergency medical technicians to include the Suffolk County Police Department as well, who are oftentimes the

first responders to calls involving overdoses. The pilot program will be in place for two years in select communities. Afterwards the County's Health and Police Departments will evaluate the program's use and effectiveness; compile data on the use of Narcan by police officers and issue a recommendation to lawmakers on the future of this policy.

“The NARCAN pilot program was an important initiative approved by the legislature earlier this year and has already saved five lives, two of which are attributed to Officer Alfieri,” stated Legislator Browning. “Officer Alfieri's is a hero. His quick response and thorough training proves that this program works, saves lives and should be expanded. I have no doubt that there will be support for this in every precinct when the pilot program is completed.”

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