

Wesleyan Wednesday

Justin Jones '12

With tomorrow being National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day, we thought it would be fitting to feature one of our criminal justice majors for #WesleyanWednesday! Justin Jones '12 decided to attend Wesleyan because of the familial environment. "I went on a couple visits to campus and by the second visit, there were students and staff that already knew my name. I thought with the small class sizes that I would be able to receive a better education, and I instantly knew the staff cared about the students." Justin graduated a year early with his bachelor's in criminal justice and was active on campus as a member of Sigma Nu, a student ambassador and was a member of SGA.

Upon graduation, Justin was offered a job as a patrol officer with the Madisonville Police Department and we have loved watching his career flourish ever since.



He served as a patrol officer for three years, and during that time received a total of five awards from the Governor's Office for his work in DUI Enforcement and Occupant Safety, and was voted Officer of the Year his first year on the job. During that time, he was accepted into a training program that targeted impaired driving, taught by LAPD! Through that training he became the YOUNGEST drug recognition expert IN THE WORLD.

Justin then moved into a detective position within narcotics at MPD and was then promoted to sergeant, detective sergeant and now is a lieutenant. When he's not working, Justin enjoys working out, hunting and spending time with his wife, Miranda.

There was a common theme in our interview with Justin – gratitude. He was constantly crediting his success to others who served as mentors, including our own Dr. Ken Ayers and Ron Sharp. "I was blessed to have so many great mentors at Wesleyan and now at MPD. None of what I have been able to accomplish would have been possible if I hadn't had such great people in my corner."

Wrapping up, we giggled a little at Justin's answer when we asked him who he'd like to have a cup of coffee with and why. "I would like to have a cup of coffee with President Trump. The question I would ask him, "Will you please stay off of Twitter?"

Justin has been recognized for countless awards and accomplishments, and when we asked him which he was most proud of, he didn't hesitate. "I received the Life Saving Medal from the Kentucky State Legislature in 2018 for saving the life of a ten-year-old boy. I entered a career in law enforcement to make a difference in lives. This career is often not glamorous or prosperous, but saving that boy's life made it all worth it."

Thank you for your service, Justin! Keep up the good work and know that we have your six!