

From: [Payne, Tracy](#) on behalf of - [Fire & Life Safety Office](#)
To: [- County Administration](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Act of Selflessness - James Barton
Date: Monday, May 5, 2025 11:21:48 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

Good Morning!

Below is a kudos that was received concerning a firefighter.

Thanks!

Tracy

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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, May 1, 2025 11:59 AM
To: - Fire & Life Safety Office <flsafety@yorkcounty.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Act of Selflessness - James Barton

Dear Chief
Kopczynski,

May 1 , 2025

My wife and I are thankful that we live in York County, where we feel we are safe and secure, community strong and genuinely cared for.

A case in point, I lost my wallet on this past Sunday morning, somewhere between my residence in Jacob's Springs, St. Lukes UMC, Ace Hardware, and my car. We tore our world apart, searching with the thought of what it meant to lose your wallet. Dreading what came next

made us cringe. Stop everything and cancel/renew everything in that wallet.

Then, a blessing from on high occurred. A blessing with the name James Barton (I believe), was on my doorstep, WITH MY WALLET IN HAND. The cash and cards were all intact. Intact only because James was honest and had remarkable integrity. He could have kept the contents and perhaps did something fraudulent. . . . but he didn't!!!

I am writing this email to call attention to his random act of kindness. I am asking you to recognize him in some meaningful way. His selfless act could influence others to do the same.

I know I am extremely grateful!

Thank you, Chief.

Sincerely,

Mike and Caroline Mellen

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

P. S. The reason my wallet was out on Dare Road was because I had my hands full with Bible, coffee, and car keys, getting into my car and I put my wallet on top of the car for just a fleeting moment! Another lesson found there!

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