



## **2020 “ACT RESPONSIBLY SCHOLARSHIP”**

The “*Act Responsibly Scholarship*” was created in 2016 in memory of Police Officer III Noah Leotta. **One or more students will be selected to receive an award with a minimum value of \$1,500.00.** An Olney native, Noah was struck by a drunk driver while on duty, suffering catastrophic trauma. After a ten-day battle, he succumbed to his injuries in December 2015.

The “*Act Responsibly Scholarship*” is for students seeking careers “on the frontline for saving lives.”

Candidates will be pursuing post-HS study for career paths like these:

- Police Department
- Fire Department
- Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)
- Health Workers
- Behavior Prevention, Intervention and Treatment
- Public Safety

For over two decades, the Olney Chamber of Commerce has awarded scholarships to high school seniors living in the greater Olney area. Generous contributions to our Scholarship Fund by local businesses have allowed the Chamber to award multiple academic scholarships ranging from \$1,000.00 to \$2,500.00. To date, five “*Act Responsibly Scholarships*” (totaling over \$15,000.00) have been presented as part of that program.

The “*Act Responsibly Scholarship*” is available to ALL Montgomery County High Schools seniors. Please note that applicants will be evaluated on how they exemplify and reflect the character displayed by Officer Leotta. Academic performance is reviewed but is not the most critical selection criterion. Final selection may include an interview.

Student(s) selected for the “*Act Responsibly Scholarship*” will receive the award and be recognized at the Chamber’s annual *Celebration of Excellence Awards Dinner* in June.

Postmark deadline for applications is **Friday, March 27, 2020.**

The application form follows.

## TO APPLY

Complete the Olney Chamber of Commerce 2020 “*Act Responsibly Scholarship*” application form carefully. Answer all questions. **Legible** information is important for the selection committee to accurately assess the applicant’s qualifications. Typed entries are preferred.

Selection criteria include:

- Montgomery County resident
- Personal qualifications and recommendations
- Community and school service
- Adherence to application guidelines
- Academic performance

Complete entire form carefully and answer **all** questions. Forward application package to:

Olney Chamber “ARS” Committee  
P.O. Box 550  
Olney, MD 20830

The postmark deadline for applications is **Friday, March 27, 2020**. All information will be kept in strict confidence and will be retained by the Olney Chamber of Commerce. For additional information, contact the Olney Chamber of Commerce at 301-774-7117.

## APPLICATION INFORMATION

Scholarships are open to graduating high school seniors interested in pursuing post-HS study for career paths “on the frontline for saving lives,” such as:

Police or Fire Department  
Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)  
Health Workers  
Behavior Prevention, Intervention and Treatment  
Public Safety

Scholarship application must include:

- Completed application form
- Description of high school and extracurricular activities
- Description of educational and career objectives
- Description of community activities
- Most recent official transcript
- Essay, and
- **Three** letters of recommendation from:
  - faculty (limit **one**)
  - community members, religious organization members, employers

OLNEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
2020 "ACT RESPONSIBLY SCHOLARSHIP" APPLICATION  
(Strictly Confidential)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Head of Household & Relationship to Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

High School: \_\_\_\_\_ GPA: \_\_\_\_\_ WTD GPA: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of school(s) selected: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Annual cost of tuition at school most likely to attend: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount provided by parents/guardian for first year: \_\_\_\_\_

How will you be contributing toward expenses for the first year? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Sources of income (other than parent/guardian): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Have you been awarded any other scholarships, or financial aid?  Yes  No

If yes, from what source(s) and amount(s)? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\*We certify that the information contained in this application is correct:

\_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_

Parent's/Guardian's Signature

Please provide concise typed responses to the following:

1. Please list or describe your activities during high school, offices held and number of years active, to include any of the following: School Activities, JV and Varsity Athletics, Community Activities, Religious Activities, Prizes and Honors, and Employment. (maximum one page)
2. Essay: Describe your personal and educational goals and how they align with the scholarship's "on the frontline for saving lives" objective. Indicate any events that played a part in developing your goals. Describe your extracurricular, service and employment activities that demonstrate your interest in/commitment to community safety and quality of life.

### **Police Officer III Noah Leotta**

Officer Noah Aaron Leotta was a product of Montgomery County Maryland. Born in Holy Cross Hospital on June 7, 1991, he lived in Aspen hill, and then Olney, with his family. He graduated from Sherwood High School, where he played for their golf team, then attended Montgomery College, Rockville. Noah interned with the Montgomery County Police Department (MCPD) for 12 months under Officer John Romack, the "DUI King". It was here that Noah became keenly aware of the deadly impact drunk drivers have on our roadways and developed his passion to get them off the road. He graduated from the Police Academy in July 2013.

Officer Leotta loved his family, his friends, his community, and being a member of the MCPD. Noah had developed into a fine young man. He was dedicated, hardworking, kind, considerate, understanding, compassionate, humble, and of strong will, character and body. These traits and characteristics made him well suited to be a proud member of the MCPD.

Officer Leotta fully embraced the Montgomery County Police Code of Honor which states: "I am a Montgomery County Police Officer, a soldier of the law. To me is entrusted the honor of the Department. I must serve honestly, faithfully, and if need be, lay down my life as others have done before me, rather than swerve from the path of duty. It is my duty to obey the law and to enforce it without any consideration of class, color, creed, or condition. It is also my duty to be of service to anyone who may be in danger or distress, and at all times conduct myself that the honor of the Department be upheld."

Officer Noah Aaron Leotta died in the line of duty at the age of 24 on December 10, 2015, at the hands of a drunk driver. His legacy of saving lives continues with the October 1, 2016 enactment of Noah's Law. Among other things, Noah's Law requires that an interlock device be installed in the car of all convicted drunk drivers and increases suspension times in the state of Maryland.

Officer Noah Leotta is on patrol.