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Contact: Karen Thornton  
(914) 248-2231  
Kthornton@pnwboces.org

Law Enforcement Alum Sworn in to Ossining Police Department

Yorktown Heights — PNW BOCES Law Enforcement alum Justin Carlson realized his lifelong dream when he was sworn into the Ossining Police Department recently. The 2015 Ossining High School graduate said that the Career and Technical Education (CTE) program at BOCES helped prepared him for the rigorous demands of the field.

“[Law Enforcement teacher] Tom Houlanah was one of the best teachers I have ever had,” Carlson said. “In the first year of the course we focused on penal law, and it was really helpful to learn so much about the field while still in high school.”

The practical approach of the Law Enforcement program helped Carlson on his career path.

“I loved the class and how from day one we started doing hands-on work,” he said.

Carlson always knew he wanted to become a police officer. After he graduated from Ossining High School he studied law enforcement at Westchester Community College before applying to the police academy. “Being a police officer was something I wanted for as long as I can remember,” he said. “I love being in the academy now. It has been an amazing experience.”

PNW BOCES Law Enforcement students learn about the functions of the criminal justice system, including the responsibilities of the police, the court system, and corrections. They learn police tactics and practical skills such as handcuffing techniques, fingerprinting and baton training.

Houlanah is proud of his former student’s accomplishments. “Justin was always a resilient, hardworking student,” he said. “I’m not surprised that he has fulfilled his dream of becoming a police officer. His oversized heart and determination will be obvious to the residents of Ossining as Justin fulfills his dream to protect and serve.”

Caption:  
Justin Carlson, Ossining, at his swearing in ceremony.