Master Trooper David Jones, Troop 10, Community Relations

The Office of Community Relations, Recruiting, and Employment Unit's nomination for 2021 Trooper of the Year is Master Trooper, David Jones. On May 26, 2021, at approximately 5:15 p.m., M/Tpr. David Jones had just sat down to work on his computer after completing his shift, when he heard screams from next door. He immediately got up and ran next door where he met a child from the neighborhood screaming, "Landon is dead!" M/Tpr. Jones ran to the back of his neighbor's house and saw 2-year-old Landon being retrieved by his mother from a pool where he was floating face down. Landon's mother handed him to M/Tpr. Jones and he observed that Landon was blue in the face and unresponsive.

M/Tpr. Jones immediately turned Landon over onto his stomach in his left arm and gave several back thrusts. He then turned him over and gave him several mouth-to-mouth breaths. He then turned Landon back over onto his stomach and gave several more back thrusts, and again, several mouth-to-mouth breaths. At this point, Landon began vomiting large amounts of water and M/Tpr. Jones responded by giving Landon additional back thrusts. Landon vomited several more times and eventually started breathing on his own.

During this sequence of events, Landon's father Andy had called 911. Within approximately 8-10 minutes, Lexington County Deputies arrived followed by EMS, who transported Landon to Prisma Health Children's Hospital in Columbia. As a result of the quick actions by M/Tpr. Jones, Landon has made a full recovery and is doing very well.

Two days before this incident, M/Tpr. Jones had just completed his annual CPR course, which is provided to all SCHP troopers through the American Red Cross. He gives credit to this training that provided him the knowledge he needed to help save Landon's life.