

## Launch of the 2017 Sheriffs' Award for Bravery and Honorary Freeman presentation

### Central Criminal Court

Monday, 27 February 2017

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Developed from an original idea of Past Masters Steve Neville OBE and Peter French MBE and with the consent of the then Lord Mayor, Sir David Brewer (*who was our Company's sponsoring Alderman*) the Annual Sheriffs' Award was launched in 2006. This is a unique annual occasion when the civil emergency services, the Armed Forces and the security industry are invited to submit instances of bravery, through the Company, to be judged by the Sheriffs of the City of London. From a short-list of nominations, the Sheriffs select a main recipient of the Award who is honoured at the Company's Annual Dinner in October, with a number of others, deserving of recognition, being presented with Certificates of Commendation at the Company's Common Hall in November.



Due to the Sheriffs' link with the Central Criminal Court, Old Bailey, a board of honour (*on which the winners of the Award are recorded*) hangs outside the Judges' dining room, with a book of citations beneath it. It is therefore appropriate that the Sheriffs' Award is launched



annually in the Judges' Dining Room at the Old Bailey. We were delighted that the 2016 and 2014 recipients, Dr Matthew Smith and Mr John Wayre respectively, were able to join us for the evening.

Charles Henty, the Secondary of London and Under Sheriff who manages the Central Criminal Court, is a good friend of the Company, and not only facilitates the annual launch of the Sheriffs' Award, but also regularly takes a number of the Company's Apprentices on a tour of the historic building. To recognise this important association, at a previous meeting of the Court, Charles Henty was elected an Honorary Freeman of the Company, and after making his declaration, was presented with his Freedom Certificate by the Master.



The 2017 launch was attended by representatives from the Security Industry Authority, the blue-light services (*including the City of London and Metropolitan Police, London Ambulance Service and London Fire Brigade*), and the Company's Military Affiliates.



We were also pleased to welcome Honorary Liveryman of the Company, The Recorder of London, HH Judge Nicholas Hilliard QC.

